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Approved For Release 2001/03/05 : CIA-RDP82-00457R0054002

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.
25X1A

DATE DISTR. 4 Aug 50

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

SUBJECT Delivery of Jet Planes from the USSR; Soviet Order for Military Boots; Soviet Engineers in Jachymov Mines; Shipment of Ammunition to Bulgaria

NO. OF PAGES 2

PLACE Bulgaria

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

ACQUIRED [REDACTED] 25X1C

DATE OF INFO. [REDACTED] 25X1A

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

25X1X

1. On 21 June 1950, 16 jet planes, mark U-24, arrived at the military airfield at Praha-Kbely from the USSR. They were accepted from the Soviet military attache by General Prochazka in the presence of the Czech Minister of National Defense. These planes were piloted by Soviet fliers who will continue to fly them. Nine of the planes will stay at Praha, the other seven will be assigned to the airfield at Prostějov (P51/W73). It is reported that eight more U-24 jet planes will arrive in July to be assigned to airfields in Bratislava and Kosice. During the second half of August an unspecified number of Banart fighters will be delivered to the Czech Air Force.*
2. The Ministry of Industry has issued an order, based on a request dated 2 June 1950 and signed by Deputy Premier Zdenek Fierlinger, to Svit national enterprise in Gottwaldov (P50/021) to manufacture 280,000 (sic) pairs of military boots for the Soviet army. Production is to begin 15 June. Delivery will be made to the Soviet commercial mission in Praha as follows:
 - a. By 30 August 1950 500,000 pairs of boots (shrnovaci holinky), sizes 41-43.
 - b. By 30 September 1950 100,000 pairs of boots (snerovaci boty), sizes 41-43.
 - c. By 31 October 1950 300,000 pairs of officers' boots (dustojnickske boty-holinky).
 - d. By 30 November 1950 100,000 pairs of boots (snerovaci boty).

The delivery dates are to be strictly observed. Payment will be made in grain to be delivered from the USSR.

3. On the basis of the inventories of individual plants in the leather industry, the Ministry of Industry doubts very much that the above-mentioned deliveries can be made within the time limits set. Supplies of leather, especially at the Svit plant, are very low. Therefore the Ministry of Industry has ordered the transfer of all leather in other plants to Svit.

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Document No. 100-470
 No Change in Class. ☐
☒ Declassified
 Class. changed To: TS S C
 Auth.: HR 10-2
 Date: 16 JUN 1978
 0457R005400260010-7 By: GLK

Approved For Release 2001/03/05 : CIA-RDP82-00457R005400260010-7

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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4. On 10 June several Soviet engineers arrived in Jachymov from the airfield at Karlovy Vary. They are to replace Czech engineers as the chief engineers at individual mines in the Jachymov area on 1 July 1950. Czech engineers are being relieved because of reportedly high losses during various stages of mining and the failure to fulfill production quotas. On 1 July there will be 27 Soviet engineers in the Jachymov area.

5. A shipment consisting of the following ammunition of unknown types was sent by rail on 11 June 1950 from the ammunition factory in Dubnica nad Vahom to Bulgaria:

- 16,000 shells of 88-mm. ammunition
- 3,000 shells of 152-mm. ammunition
- 11,000 shells of 75-mm. ammunition
- 5,000 shells of 105-mm. ammunition

A second shipment of ammunition will be sent from this factory some time in August.

* Comment: Neither the U-24 nor the Banart has been previously reported.

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